

## CAMPGROUND HOST OPPORTUNITIES

### Mark Twain National Forest

Do you like to camp in secluded campgrounds, and enjoy visiting with other campers? Would you like to be a valuable member of the team that takes care of campgrounds and other recreation sites? Do you enjoy being in a natural setting, and do you get satisfaction from helping others? If so, maybe you would enjoy being a National Forest Campground Host.

Expectations for campground hosts vary somewhat with each recreation area. You need to meet with the local ranger district employees to discuss the facilities, the exact duties and the amount of work needed to keep things cleaned and ready for visitors, and what tasks will be done by whom. We generally ask hosts to be at their recreation area on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, as a minimum, and to camp on site in order to be available to campers in the evenings. In some cases, the host may be asked to assist with mowing and trimming of the grass and other vegetation.

In exchange for assistance with greeting visitors, providing information, assuring that they know they need to pay camping or day use fees, and keeping the campground and facilities in a clean condition, the Forest Service generally provides the host(s) a free campsite with electricity and full hookups (where available), and a may also reimburse your out-of-pocket expenses of up to \$16/day for each day that you are actually working at the campground. The specified reimbursement is available for an individual and may be slightly higher for a couple, and is paid on a bi-monthly basis, unless other arrangements are made in advance. We need hosts to commit to a minimum of 6 weeks in a particular site in order to provide quality service to the public and to make our investment in training, orientation and coordination worthwhile.

Hosts **may** be needed at the following campgrounds during this next camping season:

- Greer Crossing (on the Eleven Point River in Oregon County),
- Cobb Ridge (in the Chadwick Motorcycle and ATV Area in Christian County),
- Lane Spring (Phelps County),
- Loggers Lake (Shannon County),
- Marble Creek (Madison County),
- Markham Springs (Wayne County),
- North Fork (Ozark County),
- Paddy Creek (Texas County),
- Watercress (on the Current River in Carter County),
- Opportunities are also available at numerous other campgrounds throughout the nation.

To find out more about these campgrounds, visit our website at

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/mtnf/recreation>, or contact your nearest National Forest office. For specific information on campground hosting opportunities, please contact the Forest Supervisor's Office at 573-364-4621, or one of the Ranger District offices.

